DIXIE CHOPPER®

The World's Fastest Lawn Mower®

2014 Zee 2 Owner/Operator Manual

Serial numbers 14XXXXXX and higher

About This Manual

Congratulations on the purchase of your new Dixie Chopper mower! When operated and maintained as directed in this manual, Dixie Chopper is confident that this mower will provide you with years of excellent performance, durability, and trouble free service.

Should you ever have any questions regarding the operation, maintenance, or safety of your mower, please contact your authorized Dixie Chopper dealer who has been specially trained in the operation and service of Dixie Chopper mowers.

Please take time to record the information about your new Dixie Chopper mower in the space below for future reference. Such information may be needed when you contact your authorized Dixie Chopper dealer with questions.

The general operation, adjustment, and maintenance procedures contained in this manual are meant for both the beginner and the experienced Dixie Chopper operator. Operating conditions vary greatly, as do individual skill sets, so take time to learn how to safely operate this machine.

This owner's manual is considered a permanent part of the mower. It must be available to all of the operators and/or person(s) servicing the mower. Should the mower be resold, this manual must remain with the mower.

Illustrations and photographs used in this manual were current as of date of print. Despite this effort, production changes may have occurred after the time of the purchase of your Dixie Chopper; therefore, your unit may vary slightly from what is depicted in this manual.

All information, illustrations, and specifications contained in this manual were in effect at the time of publication. Dixie Chopper reserves the right to change, modify, and/or discontinue specifications and/or design without notice. If there is a change that has been made to your mower which is not shown or reflected in this manual, please see your authorized Dixie Chopper dealer before operating and/or servicing equipment.

Authorized Dealer:

Model #: _____ Engine Model #: _____

Serial #: _____ Engine Serial #: _____

Date purchased: _____

Table of Contents

Topic	*Page#*
General Precautions	1
Safety Information	3
Warranty	5
Routine Maintenance	8
Maintenance Schedule	8
Maintenance Record	9
Maintenance Points	10
Start-up & Controls	11
Safety Interlock System	11
Starting the Mower	12
Controls	13
Operation	14
Cut Height Setting	14
Mowing Speed	14
Mowing	15
Shutdown	15
Shutdown Procedures	15
Moving the Mower Without Power	15
Bypass Valve	15
Maintenance & Repair	16
Blade Replacement	16
Under Deck Cleaning	16
Battery Maintenance	16
Mower Cleaning & Off-Season Storage	16
Drive Belt Adjustment	17
Drive Belt Replacement	17
Deck Adjustment	17
Preparation for Storage	18
Preparation for New Mowing Season	18
Belt Routing Diagram	19
Notes	20

General Safety Precautions

PLEASE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS OPERATION MANUAL AND THE INSTRUCTIONS FURNISHED WITH ATTACHMENTS BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO OPERATE THIS MOWER.

1. Know the location and function of the controls and how to operate them. Know how to stop quickly.
2. Do not allow children under the age of 18 to operate machine.
3. Do not allow anyone to operate the machine without proper instruction.
4. Do not carry passengers.
5. **Do not mow when children, pets, or others are present.** The operator is responsible for the safety of others within the vicinity of the operation of this mower.
6. While operating the machine, always:
   - place roll over protection system in up position (if applicable)
   - wear seat belt if roll over protection system is installed
   - keep hands and feet inside of the machine.
7. Keep hands, feet, and clothing away from rotating blades or other rotating parts while engine is running.
8. Clear the work area of objects (wire, rocks, toys, or debris of any kind).
9. Disengage all attachment clutches, set parking brake, and place steering speed control levers into neutral-lock (open) position before attempting to start engine.
10. Disengage power to attachments, stop engine, engage parking brake and remove ignition key before leaving the operator position or leaving machine unattended.
11. Do not attempt to adjust or repair the mower deck, the drive system, the mower blades, or any moving parts of the machine while the engine is running. You must disengage power to attachments, disengage PTO (Deck Engagement Switch), set steering speed control levers to neutral-lock, set parking brake, **shut off the engine,** and remove key before making any repairs or adjustments or attempting any of the following tasks:
    - Adjusting deck pitch
    - unclogging the mower deck chute
    - checking blade mounting bolts for proper tightness at the specified intervals
    - refueling (never add fuel while engine is running or hot)

    Failure to comply with the above may result in personal injury or death.
12. Disengage power to attachments when transporting unit or when unit is not in use.
13. Never operate this mower on slopes exceeding 5^{O} - 10^{O} - 15^{O} degrees in any specific direction. ***NOTE: To operate on terrain that exceeds these limits constitutes misuse of the equipment and as such, any and all injuries as a result of said use are expressly disclaimed.***
14. Reduce speed and exercise extreme caution on slopes to prevent tipping and/or loss of control of mower. Be especially cautious and **slow down** when changing directions on steep terrain.
15. DO NOT operate on slopes when grass is wet.
16. When mowing downhill, loss of traction and/or braking ability may occur. Use extreme caution and good judgement before mowing sloped terrain.
17. Stay alert for holes, rocks, roots or other terrain features which may cause loss or sudden increase in traction. Care must be taken to keep away from drop-offs.
18. Use care when pulling loads or using heavy attachments.
    - Use only approved draw bar hitch points.
    - Limit loads to those you can safely control.
    - Do not turn sharply. Use care when reversing.
19. Watch out for traffic when near or crossing roads, and obey traffic laws. Disengage blades and wait for them to stop completely before crossing gravel roads.
20. When using any attachments, never direct discharge of materials toward bystanders, nor allow anyone near the machine while it is in operation.
21. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure equipment is in safe working condition.

General Safety Precautions

22. Allow engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
23. Never attempt to operate mower while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
24. Handle gasoline with care.
    Follow these guidelines:
    - Use approved gasoline container
    - Place container out of reach of children
    - Use gasoline only as a fuel, never as a cleaner
    - Never remove fuel cap while engine is running or hot
    - Never add fuel while engine is running or hot
    - Never fill fuel tank indoors
    - Wipe up spilled gasoline
    - Do not smoke while refueling the machine
    - Never store equipment with gasoline in the tank inside a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark
    - Always have a fire extinguisher present when using gasoline or other flammable substance.
25. Keep vehicle and attachments in good operating condition. Keep safety devices, such as guards, shields, and covers, in place and in working condition.
26. Do not operate the mower or attachments if any guards are missing or are not functioning properly.
27. After striking a foreign object, stop and secure the mower, and then inspect for damage. Repair any damage before restarting and operating the equipment.
28. The machine is calibrated at the factory. Do not change engine governor settings or overspeed the engine.
29. Disengage power to mower deck before backing up. The mower is not designed to mow in reverse. Dixie Chopper's zero turning radius nearly eliminates the need for backing up. Simply turn the mower around within its own dimension and proceed forward.
30. Do not mow with mower blades that are out of balance, have worn, or have been damaged.
31. Personal protection equipment such as safety goggles, hearing protection and other devices must be worn while operating the machine. Do not operate or service the mower when barefoot or wearing open-toed shoes.
32. Use caution when handling mower blades during replacement or maintenance. Wear appropriate protective gloves and clothing. Failure to comply may result in personal injury.
33. Operate mower only in daylight or good artificial light.
34. Do not operate when grass is wet.
35. Do not make sudden turns, stops, starts, reversals, or any other abrupt maneuvers, especially when negotiating slopes. The steering speed control levers are very responsive to slight movement. Rapid, rough, or jerky manipulation of the steering speed control levers may result in damage to equipment and personal injury.
36. Do not run the engine in an enclosure without adequate ventilation. Exhaust fumes contain carbon monoxide which is harmful to animals and humans. Failure to comply can result in personal injury or death.
37. Do not work underneath the mower unless it is adequately supported by jack stands or similar type devices that have a safe working load of at least 2000 lbs or more. Failure to adequately support the machine in this manner may result in property damage, personal injury, or death.
38. Disconnect the negative battery terminal when setting up, adjusting, or doing repairs on your mower. Failure to comply may result in personal injury or death.
39. Do not touch hot parts of the mower. Failure to comply can result in personal injury.
40. Give complete and undivided attention to the job at hand.
41. Obey all safety decals.

Safety Information Decals

30229
DANGER
PELIGRO
KEEP HANDS & FEET AWAY.
DO NOT OPERATE MOWER UNLESS GUARD OR GRASS CATCHER IS ATTACHED.
MANTENGA ALEJADOS MANOS Y PIES.
NO OPERE EL CORTACÉSPED A MENOS QUE LA PROTECCIÓN O CAPTACIÓN DE HIERBA ESTÉ COLOCADA.

MAX FILL
CAUTION
Shut off engine before refueling.
Never fill fuel tank indoors or when engine is hot.
Wipe up all spilled fuel before starting engine.
Do not smoke while refueling.
PRECAUCIÓN
Cierre El Motor Antes De Volver A Cargar El Tanque.
Nunca Llene El Tanque De Combustible En Interiores O Cuando El Motor Este Caliente.
Limpie Todo Combustible Derramado Antes DeEncender El Motor.
No Fume Al Cargar Combustible.
NOTICE
WARRANTY TO BE USED ONLY TO COVER CORRECTION OF MANUFACTURING DEFECTS. IT WILL NOT BE USED TO COVER LACK OF MAINTENANCE, OPERATOR MIS-USE, NORMAL WEAR, ACCIDENTS, CUSTOMER DIS-SATISFACTION OR TRANS-PORTATION CHARGES TO AND FROM THE SERVICING DEALER.
FOR BEST PERFORMANCE, MINIMUM ENGINE RPM SHOULD BE 3750 UNDER NO LOAD. CONTINUOUS OPERATION BELOW 3500 RPM WILL RESULT IN ENGINE OVER-HEATING AND AN UNACCEPTABLE QUALITY CUT. RPM MAY BE REDUCED FOR TRIMMING AND/OR OTHER LIGHT LOAD DUTIES. IF THE ENGINE CANNOT MAINTAIN 3500 RPM, UNDER A LOAD, OPERATOR SHOULD REDUCE GROUND SPEED, CONSULT MANUAL, AND/OR CONTACT YOUR DEALER FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS.
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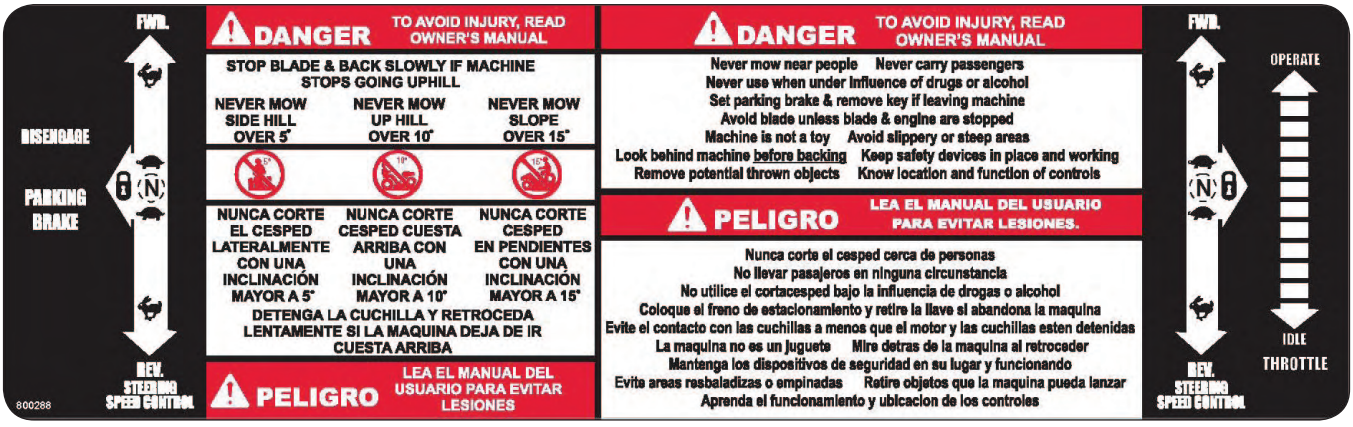

FWD.
DISENGAGE
PARKING BRAKE
REV.
STEERING SPEED CONTROL
800288
DANGER
TO AVOID INJURY, READ OWNER'S MANUAL
STOP BLADE & BACK SLOWLY IF MACHINE STOPS GOING UPHILL
NEVER MOW SIDE HILL OVER 5°
NEVER MOW UP HILL OVER 10°
NEVER MOW SLOPE OVER 15°
NUNCA CORTE EL CESPED LATERALMENTE CON UNA INCLINACIÓN MAYOR A 5°
NUNCA CORTE CESPED CUESTA ARRIBA CON UNA INCLINACIÓN MAYOR A 10°
NUNCA CORTE CESPED EN PENDIENTES CON UNA INCLINACIÓN MAYOR A 15°
DETENGA LA CUCHILLA Y RETROCEDA LENTAMENTE SI LA MAQUINA DEJA DE IR CUESTA ARRIBA
PELIGRO
LEA EL MANUAL DEL USUARIO PARA EVITAR LESIONES
DANGER
TO AVOID INJURY, READ OWNER'S MANUAL
Never mow near people
Never carry passengers
Never use when under influence of drugs or alcohol
Set parking brake & remove key if leaving machine
Avoid blade unless blade & engine are stopped
Machine is not a toy
Avoid slippery or steep areas
Look behind machine before backing
Keep safety devices in place and working
Remove potential thrown objects
Know location and function of controls
PELIGRO
LEA EL MANUAL DEL USUARIO PARA EVITAR LESIONES.
Nunca corte el cesped cerca de personas
No llevar pasajeros en ninguna circunstancia
No utilice el cortacesped bajo la influencia de drogas o alcohol
Coloque el freno de estacionamiento y retire la llave si abandona la maquina
Evite el contacto con las cuchillas a menos que el motor y las cuchillas esten detenidas
La maquina no es un juguete
Mire detras de la maquina al retroceder
Mantenga los dispositivos de seguridad en su lugar y funcionando
Evite areas resbaladizas o empinadas
Retire objetos que la maquina pueda lanzar
Aprenda el funcionamiento y ubicacion de los controles
FWD.
OPERATE
IDLE
THROTTLE
REV.
STEERING SPEED CONTROL

Safety Features

Parking Brake - The parking brake should be engaged whenever the mower is stationary and unoccupied.

Safety Interlock System - The mower has a system of safety interlock switches that will not allow the mower to start unless the steering speed control levers are in the neutral lock position, the parking brake is set and the deck engaging switch (PTO) is off. If the seat is vacated during mowing without positioning the controls as previously outlined, the engine will be stopped by the safety interlock system.

Warranty

Dixie Chopper Limited Warranty

General Warranty Conditions

Dixie Chopper warrants that it will, at its option, adjust, repair, or replace, any factory original part used in the manufacturing of a Dixie Chopper complete unit, found to be defective in material or workmanship. For the purposes of this Warranty, a Dixie Chopper complete unit is defined as a riding lawn mower manufactured by Dixie Chopper. This warranty is non-transferable absent written authorization by Dixie Chopper. Dixie Chopper is in no way liable for any special, incidental or consequential damages for breach of any written or implied warranty on any product. Zee 2 units are designed with residential use in mind. As such, commercial use of any Zee 2 unit will void this warranty. For the purposes of this warranty commercial use is defined as any use of the Zee 2 machine to mow property that is not owned and/or leased by the lawn mowers owner.

Purchaser/Operator's Responsibilities under the Warranty

As a condition of the Dixie Chopper warranty, the purchaser and or the operator must have fully read and understood the operator's manual. This includes being familiar with how to operate the equipment safely, as well as how to maintain the equipment properly prior to actually operating the equipment. This Warranty applies only to equipment that is operated under normal conditions and maintained per the service schedule specified in this owner's manual. Maintenance of the unit is the sole responsibility of the owner.

To obtain warranty service, the unit must be registered before obtaining any warranty work. This information must be submitted to Dixie Chopper within ten (10) days of the original retail purchase date to enable validation of the warranty period.

A Dixie Chopper mower requiring repair or warranty work must be returned to an authorized Dixie Chopper service dealer within the warranty period. The expense of transporting the unit to and from the authorized Dixie Chopper service dealer for warranty work will be the sole responsibility of the purchaser/owner and in no way will be attributed to Dixie Chopper. All warranty work must be performed by an authorized Dixie Chopper dealer using genuine Dixie Chopper parts. Failure to have warranty repair performed by an authorized Dixie Chopper dealer will result in the denial by Dixie Chopper to pay for said warranty repair work.

Should a Purchaser encounter problems with receiving warranty service from an authorized Dixie Chopper dealer, or is in need of assistance or clarification of this warranty, contact us at:

Magic Circle Corp.
6302 E. CR. 100 North
Coatesville, IN 46121

NOTE: This warranty is void for any new products purchased through auction web sites. Warranty is valid only for new products purchased through Authorized Dealer. Proof of purchase required for all claims.

Warranty (cont.)

Warranty Period & Limitations

The Zee 2 is warranted to be free of defects in material or workmanship for a period of three (3) years from the retail purchase date by the original purchaser regardless of the amount of hours of service on the machine. For the first two years of the warranty period, Dixie Chopper will be responsible for both parts and labor for all warrantable claims. During the third and final year of the warranty, Dixie Chopper will be responsible for the cost of parts only for warrantable claims. Labor costs will be the sole responsibility of the owner of the machine during the third year of the warranty period.

Dixie Chopper original equipment batteries are warranted against OEM factory defects in materials or workmanship for a period of 1 year from the retail purchase date. If a battery failure occurs before one (1) year has passed since the date of retail purchase, the battery will be replaced at the cost of the standard replacement battery. Abuse or using the battery for purposes not associated with its intended use voids the battery warranty.

Consumable wear items such as tires, blades, spark plugs, belts, etc. are warranted for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of retail purchase for defects in materials or workmanship. This warranty does not apply to damage or wear of such consumable components as a result of abuse or normal wear and tear.

Warranty Exclusions & Remedies

Dixie Chopper does not warranty the following: 1) parts not manufactured or sold by Dixie Chopper; 2) after market components or accessories for use on a Dixie Chopper brand mower; 3) repairs, alterations or installation of accessories by non-authorized Dixie Chopper service dealers; 4) repairs or replacement resulting from the installation or use of unauthorized parts, accessories or attachments; 5) damage to a Dixie Chopper unit that occurred as a result of it being used for another purpose other than which it was designed; 6) damage or depreciation as a result of normal wear and tear, or improper or inadequate maintenance of the mower as specified in this owner's manual 7) damage as a result of an act of God to include but not limited to hail, wind, rain, flood, lightning, fire, smoke, sun exposure, earthquake, etc..; 8) repairs or replacement as the result of any alterations or modifications, in the determination of Dixie Chopper, which adversely affects the performance or operation of the mower; 9) costs associated with the routine maintenance of the mower or costs of parts associated with such to include those specified by this owner's manual to include oil, grease, and consumable components; 10) repairs associated with improper fuel usage, to include the use of gasoline containing an excess of 10% ethanol alcohol by volume.

Warranty (cont.)

Dixie Chopper is in no way liable for consequential damages, negligence, strict liability in tort, or any other legal theory. Likewise, Dixie Chopper is not responsible for damages associated with these theories to include but not limited to: 1) lost profits or revenue; 2) loss of the use of any equipment to include the equipment that is subject to this warranty; 3) any down time as a result of warranty work being performed to include temporary replacement equipment; 4) cost of capital; and 5) claims asserted by third parties, including customers. Some jurisdictions prohibit the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above may not be applicable to you.

DISCLAIMER

THE FOREGOING WARRANTIES ARE IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. IN THE EVENT THAT A DIXIE CHOPPER IS PURCHASED FOR CONSUMER USE, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE IS LIMITED TO THE DURATION OF THIS LIMITED WARRANTY. SOME JURISDICTIONS PROHIBIT LIMITATIONS ON THE LENGTH OF TIME AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS; AS SUCH THIS LIMITATION MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. THIS WARRANTY PROVIDES YOU WITH SPECIFIC LEGAL RIGHTS, AND OTHER RIGHTS MAY BE PROVIDED IN YOUR JURISDICTION.

Complete Warranty

Absent a modification in writing signed by all the parties and approved by Magic Circle, this agreement constitutes the complete and exclusive agreement between the parties. This agreement is to replace and or supersede all other prior agreements written or oral.

Routine Maintenance

Maintenance should be performed per the requirements in the chart below or as needed.

Routine Maintenance Chart				
	Before Each Use	Every 25 Hours	Every 100 Hours or Annually	Every 400 Hours
Check Safety Interlock System	X			
Inspect unit for loose hardware and/or damaged parts	X			
Inspect tires for wear and proper inflation (front 15 psi, rear 10psi)	X			
Inspect fuel level	X			
Inspect for fuel and/or oil leaks	X			
Inspect engine oil coolers for build up	X			
Inspect and clean air intake screen	X			
Check engine oil level (*See* engine owner's manual)	X			
Check blades for sharpness and wear	X			
Check hydraulic overflow tank	X			
Change transaxle oil and filter[3]				X
Inspect engine cooling fins under engine shroud (*See* authorized Dixie Chopper dealer for cleaning if build-up exists).		X		
Check engine air cleaner. Replace if necessary[1]		X		
Change engine oil and filter (*See* engine owner's manual)[2]		X		
Change engine fuel filter			X	
Replace cutting blades		X		

[1]Engine air filters should be cleaned/changed more frequently in dusty conditions or when airborne debris is present.

[2]IMPORTANT NOTE: CHANGE ENGINE OIL AND FILTER AFTER FIRST 8 HOURS OF USE AND THEN EVERY 25 HOURS THEREAFTER. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL VOID THE ENGINE WARRANTY.

[3]IMPORTANT NOTE: CHANGE TRANSAXLE OIL AND FILTER AFTER FIRST 75 HOURS OF USE AND THEN EVERY 400 HOURS THEREAFTER. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL VOID THE TRANSAXLE WARRANTY.

NOTE: THE RECOMMENDED TRANSAXLE OIL FOR YOUR MOWER IS DIXIE CHOPPER PART #902353.
We strongly urge that you use this oil in the event that you should need to refill or add hydraulic reservoir. However if this is unavailable, you may substitute a motor oil of 89 SUS or better (at 212 degrees Fahrenheit) , such as a high grade 10W50,15W40, 15W50, or 20W50

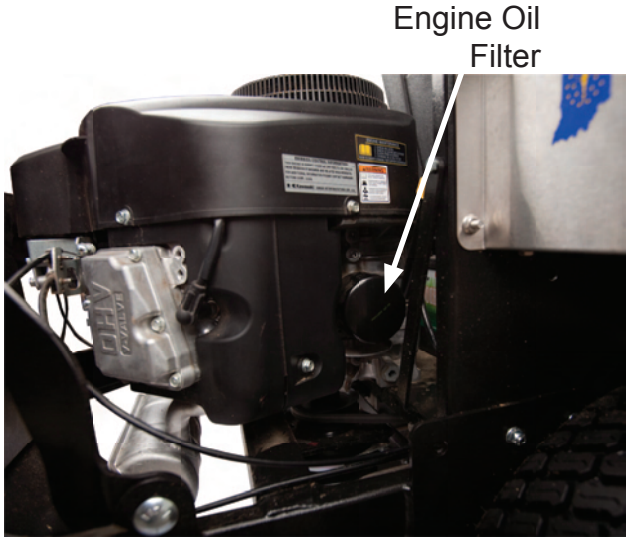
Engine Oil: Consult engine manual.
Lube Grease: Dixie Chopper Heavy Duty Grease part number 902373.

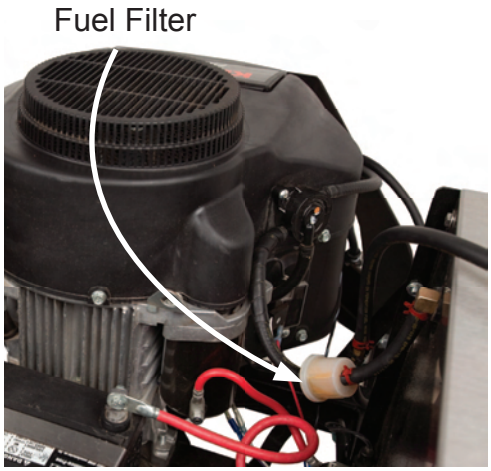
Routine Maintenance

Record Service Dates

Engine Oil/Filter Change	Air Cleaner Inspection/Change	Fuel Filter Change

Routine Maintenance





Controls and Operation

Before Starting the Mower:

DANGER ***Do not run the mower engine in confined areas such as a closed garage. Take care not to inhale exhaust gases as they contain carbon monoxide, which is a colorless odorless gas, which can cause unconsciousness and is potentially lethal.***

WARNING ***Handle fuel with care. Use only approved fuel containers. Never add fuel while the engine is running or hot. Fill fuel tank outdoors, never indoors. Replace the fuel tank cap securely and wipe up all spilled fuel. Failure to comply may result in damage to the equipment and/or injury to persons***

CAUTION ***Before starting the engine, become familiar with all controls. Read and understand this Operation Manual thoroughly. Always check for proper engine oil level before starting engine. Failure to comply may result in damage to the equipment and injury to persons.***

1. Ensure that all shields and the mower deck discharge chute are in place. Never attempt to clear discharge areas or the mower deck blades without disengaging mower deck, setting the parking brake, shutting off the engine, and removing the ignition key.
2. Confirm that mower deck blades are sharp and balanced to ensure the optimum quality of cut.

   NOTE: Refer to blade replacement procedures for detailed instructions on how to safely and properly maintain mower blades.

3. Check tires for wear and proper inflation.
4. Check levels of fuel, engine oil and hydraulic system oil.

Safety Interlock System

The mower has a system of safety interlock switches that will not allow the mower to start unless the following conditions are met:

- Steering speed control levers are in neutral lock position.
- Parking brake is set.
- Deck engaging switch (PTO) is off.

If the seat is vacated during operation without positioning the controls as previously outlined, the engine will be stopped by the safety interlock system.

Controls

Steering Level Adjustment

The pitch of the steering levers is adjustable to accomodate the comfort of the mower operator. Each lever is independently adjustable by manipulating the bolts on the lower portion of the lever. To adjust the lever:

1. Loosen the two bolts in the bracket which holds the steering lever. Do not remove the bolts.
2. Adjust the angle of the steering lever by using the upper bolt as a pivot point and moving the lever either back or forth. The lower bolt will slide through the opening in the lever.
3. Once the desired position is achieved, re-tighten the steering lever bolts.

The height of the steering levers may also be adjusted by moving the entire upper portion of the lever up or down into the pre-drilled holes in the lower bracket (lever shown in the middle position).

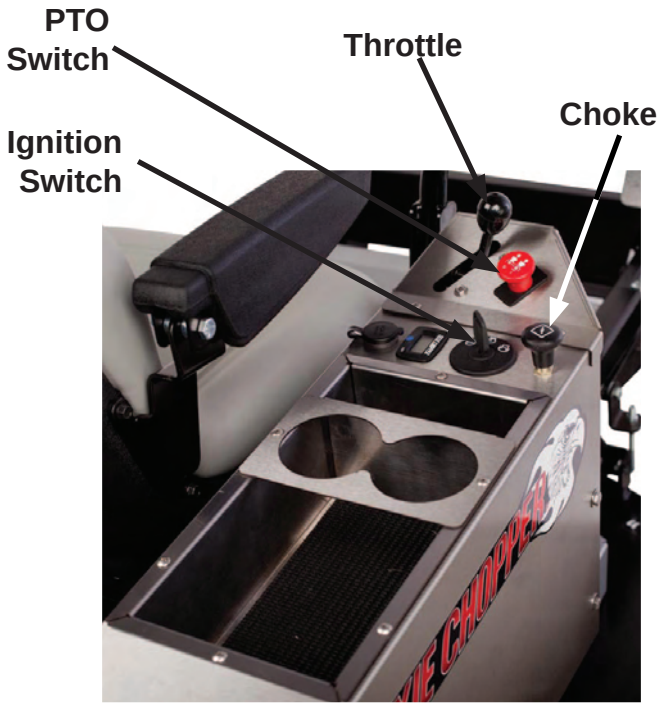
Steering Lever Bolts

To Start the Mower:

1. Place the steering speed control levers in the neutral lock position.
2. Sit in the mower seat.
3. Pull the parking brake lever all the way up to set parking brake.
4. Push the throttle lever forward to 3/4 power.
5. Pull choke knob until it stops.
6. Turn the ignition switch to the START position. Release the key after the engine starts. The Key will automatically return to the RUN position.
7. After the engine has started, push in the choke knob and allow engine to warm up.

NOTE: If the engine fails to start after 6-7 seconds of continuous cranking, turn the key to the OFF position and allow the starter motor to cool.

See below for location of controls



Start-Up and Controls

Steering Speed Control Levers:

The mower is equipped with a separate Transaxle for each rear wheel and are controlled by the steering speed control levers. The left lever controls the left rear wheel and the right lever controls the right rear wheel.

To move forward, push both levers forward at the same time, slowly and evenly. (*See below*)

To speed up the forward movement, push levers farther forward. The farther they are pushed, the faster the mower will travel.

To move in reverse, pull both levers backward at the same time, slowly and evenly. (*See below*)

DANGER ***Do not move the steering speed control levers too rapidly or start and stop the mower suddenly, especially on grades. Failure to comply will result in personal injury or death.***

To speed up the backward movement, pull levers toward you. The closer they are pulled, the faster the mower will travel. ***NOTE: Never mow in reverse.***

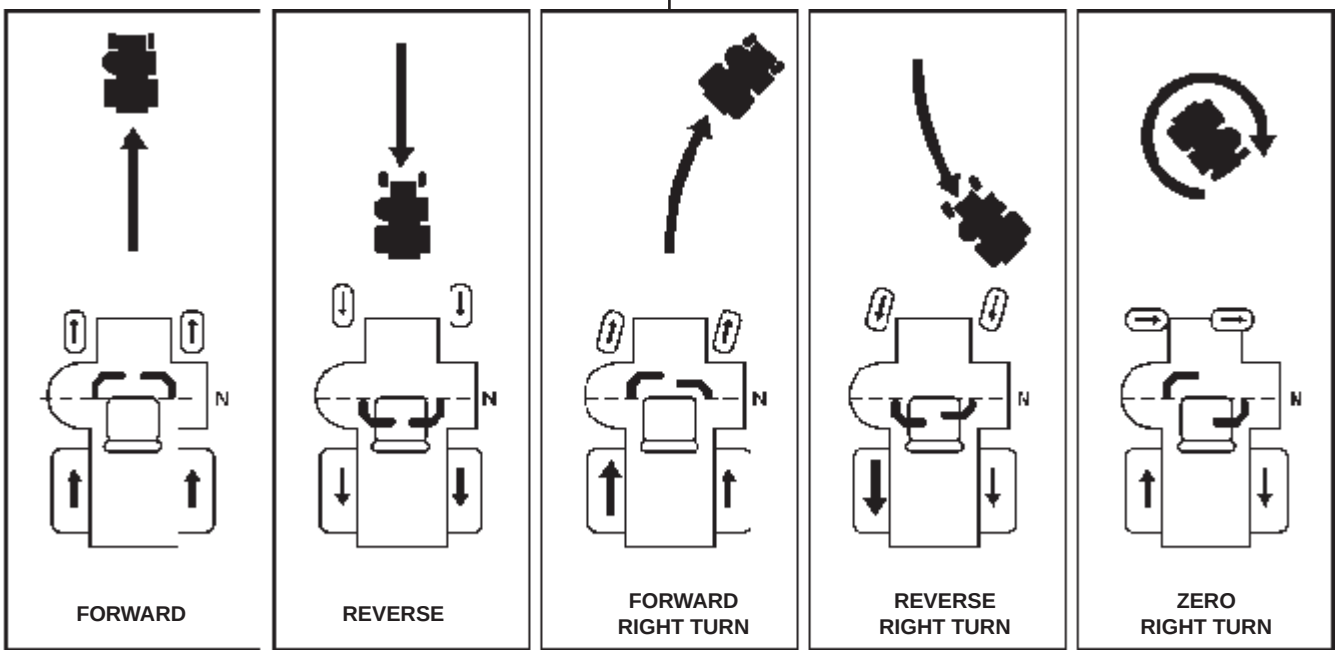
To turn, slow the mower's ground speed, then further slow the speed of the wheel. Slow the right wheel for a right-hand turn or the left wheel for a left-hand turn.
(*See below*)

To reduce the speed of the mower, move the steering speed control levers forward or backward toward the neutral position.

Refer to the illustrations of steering speed control levers' positions shown below.

To execute a Zero Radius turn, you must put one wheel in reverse and one wheel in forward.

Refer to illustrations shown below of the steering speed control levers' position relative to the mower wheels and the direction in which the levers turn them.



Operation

Setting the Cutting Height

Set the mowing deck appropriately to achieve the desired height of your cut. The recommended cutting height is 2-3 inches (5-7 cm), though your preference may be a higher or lower cut.

Tall grass or weeds should be cut with the mower deck set to its highest position.

The first time you mow, set the cut height slightly higher than normal, then adjust accordingly.

1. Refer to the deck height indicator decal adjacent to the deck height pedal.
2. Determine the appropriate setting for your desired cut height, starting with the highest.
3. Adjust the setting by applying slight pressure to the pedal handle towards the middle of the mower and then raising or lowering the pedal. Ensure the stop in the lever settles into the appropriate notch in the rail.

Deck Height Setting Indicator

***Each hole is approximately 1/2" change in cut height.**

Mowing Speed

The mower is designed to operate most efficiently at maximum blade speed (engine 3600 rpm).
The speed of the mower should allow the mower deck blades to maintain this maximum speed while mowing across turf. Control the ground speed with speed control levers. Slow the mower for cutting tall grass, grass that is heavy with moisture, or when moving uphill. If ground speed is too fast or blade speed is too slow, mowing will be uneven because the mower blades will not be able to lift grass into cutting position as the mower passes over the ground.

Fuel level Indicator

***WARNING** Handle fuel with care. Use only approved fuel containers. Never add fuel while the engine is running or hot. Fill fuel tank outdoors, never indoors. Replace the fuel tank cap securely and wipe up all spilled fuel. Failure to comply may result in damage to the equipment and/or injury to persons.*

The fender on the trim side of the mower has a cut out in the stainless steel allowing for easy fuel level assessment.

Fuel Level Indicator

Operation

To Mow

NOTE: Always set engine speed at full- throttle when mowing. This engine speed will provide the necessary airflow to the engine cowling to prevent overheating and will maintain blade speed for a satisfactory quality of cut. If the engine pulls below full throttle when under load, slow down the ground speed and allow the engine to recover to full throttle.
Slow the mower for cutting tall grass or when mowing uphill. If ground speed is too fast or blade speed is too slow, mowing will be uneven because the mower blades will not be able to lift the grass into cutting position as the mower passes over the ground.

1. Set the mowing deck height to desired cut height
2. To release the parking brake, push the parking brake lever all the way down.
3. Set the throttle to full throttle position.
4. Engage the mower deck by pulling up on the deck engaging switch (PTO).
5. Set the throttle at the full-throttle position.
6. Steer and accelerate the mower using the steering speed control levers as explained in this manual.

Mower Shutdown Procedure

NOTE: Engine may be stopped at any time by turning the ignition key to the OFF position.

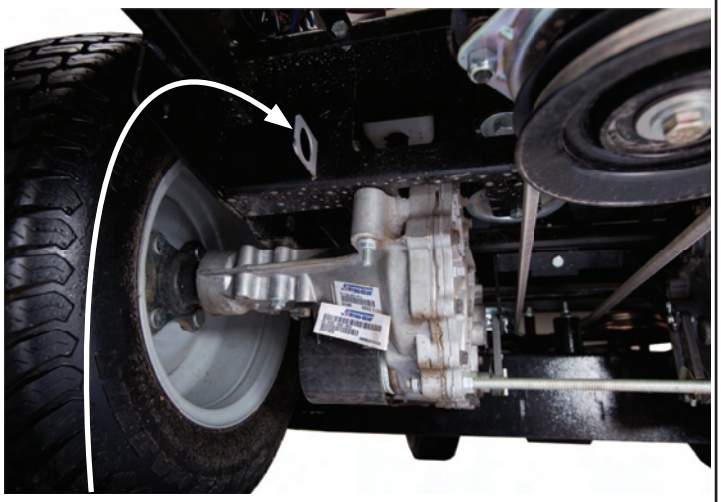
1. Move the steering speed control levers to neutral position to stop mower movement.
2. Push the deck engaging switch (PTO) down to disengage mower deck blades.
3. Pull the parking brake lever all the way up.
4. Move the throttle to the idle position.
5. Allow the engine to idle for two minutes.
6. Turn the ignition key to the OFF position and remove the key, even if leaving the mower unattended for only a few minutes.

To Tow

NOTE: Do not exceed a speed of 2 mph when moving the mower without power.

In order to transport the mower without power, you must first release the hydraulic pressure by using the bypass lever located on each transaxle. Gain access to the bypass levers under the main chassis, behind the rear wheels. The levers are held in the front locking notch under spring
pressure. Pull the lever toward the back of the mower until detent is felt in handle, enabling the mower to be moved without power.

Under rear of mower, looking forward



Bypass Lever
(1 per transaxle, 2 total)

Basic Mower Adjustments, Maintenance, and Repair

Blade Replacement

CAUTION ***NEVER work with mower blades while mower is running. Make sure that ignition switch is off, key is removed, PTO switch is disengaged, steering speed control levers are in neutral lock, and parking brake is on. Failure to comply can result in personal injury or death.***

WARNING ***While setting up, repairing, or transporting your mower, disconnect the negative battery terminal. Failure to comply can result in personal injury or death.***

CAUTION ***Use caution when handling mower blades during replacement or maintenance. Wear appropriate protective gloves and clothing. Cover the sharp cutting edges of the blades. Failure to comply can result in personal injury.***

1. Chock rear tires.
2. Lift front end of mower and support it with a jack or jack stands that have sufficient safe working load capacities.
3. Wedge a short piece of lumber between the mower blade and the mower deck to immobilize the blade while removing and reattaching hardware.
4. Remove bolts and washers attaching blade to blade spindle shafts, before removing blades.
5. Apply anti-seize compound to threads of attaching bolts before installation of new or sharpened blades.
6. In reverse order as removed, install new or sharpened blade with spacer, washers, and bolts. Make certain to keep the lift area (turned-up section of the blade) facing the underside of mower deck. Ensure that the fiber washer (which acts as a vibration damper) is against the blade. (Replace fiber washer if damaged or degraded)
7. Tighten bolts to a torque of 115-130 ft-lbs.

Under Deck Cleaning

CAUTION ***Do not clean the underside of the deck with a pressure washer. Water can get in and under seals and cause damage to equipment.***

Clean the underside of the deck frequently. Accumulation of debris seriously impairs the mower's ability to "lift" the grass into cutting position and discharge the clippings evenly. Build up on the underside of the mower deck often results in a poor quality of cut.

Battery Maintenance

During off-season storage, use a trickle charger to maintain the battery.

WARNING ***Prior to performing any and all maintenance, make sure that the ignition switch is off and key removed, PTO switch is disengaged, steering speed control levers are in neutral lock, and parking brake is on. Failure to comply may result in personal injury or death.***

Mower Cleaning & Off-Season Storage

Clean and store the mower at the end of the mowing season as follows:

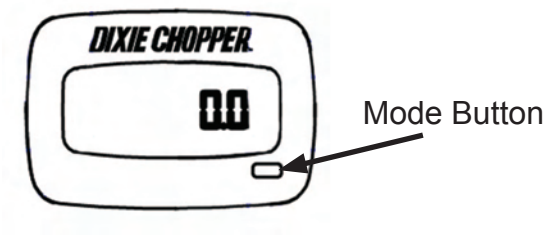
1. Perform steps as applicable under routine maintenance.
2. Remove all grass, dirt, and debris from the machine. Wash mower with an automotive type detergent.
3. Thoroughly apply grease to grease zerks as shown on page 10.
4. Check tires for proper inflation.
5. Start mower and engage PTO for approximately one minute to remove excess water from belts and pulleys.

CAUTION ***Never attempt to make any adjustments to mower deck or work under it while mower is running. Make sure that ignition switch is off and key removed, PTO switch is disengaged, steering speed control levers are in neutral lock, and parking brake is on. Failure to comply will result in personal injury or death.***

Hour Meter

Functions:

1. Tachometer
2. Engine Hours
3. System Voltage
4. Initial Oil Change (Break in oil)
5. Scheduled Oil Service Alert
6. Air filter service Alert
7. Fuel filter service Alert



Operation:

Push and release mode button to toggle between functions, the mode button will also be used to clear alerts and/or timers.

The service alert timer counts down from a set interval,when the hour meter reaches the GENTLE ALERT INTERVAL for a qualifying function your meter will begin to flash messages such as CHG OIL, SVC AIR FILTER and SVC FUEL FILTER. As the interval countdown continues and 0 hours remain for service intervals messages such as CHG OIL NOW, SVC AIR FILTER NOW, SVC FUEL FILTER NOW will be displayed.

Reset Procedure:

Select the alert or timer you would like to reset press and HOLD the mode button for 3 to 7 seconds (an alert or timer reset can be performed at any time).

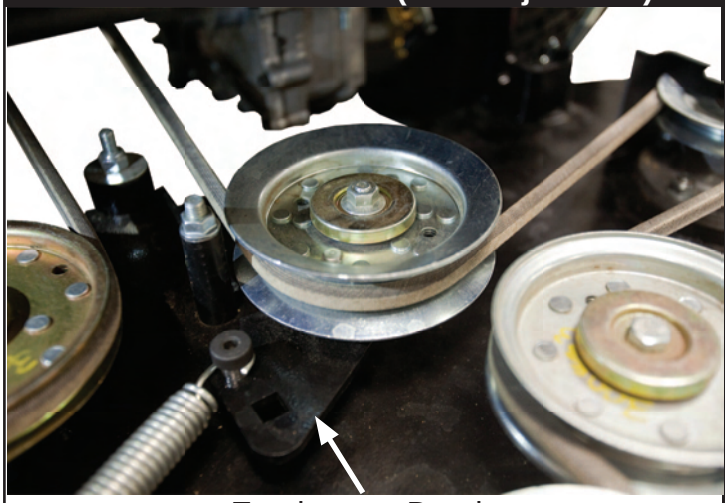
Drive Belt Replacement

Replace the drive belts if they show signs of cuts, tears, burns caused by slipping, or excessive wear. Refer to the Routine Maintenance section of this manual for a schedule of replacement.

1. Loosen the tension on the vertical/ horizontal idler pulley by pulling it away from belt.
2. Remove belt from pulley noting the routing of belt.
3. Install new belt onto pulley, routing it in the same configuration as the replaced belt. The pulley can be moved as needed.

See belt routing on page 19.

Deck Drive Belt Tension (Non-Adjustable)



Basic Mower Adjustments, Maintenance, and Repair

Preparing the Mower for Storage

Prepare the engine for storage at the end of the mowing season as follows:

1. Run engine for 15 minutes or longer.
2. Shut off engine.
3. Drain oil while engine is still warm
4. Remove engine oil filter.
5. Refill crankcase with fresh oil. Refer to engine owner's manual for proper oil type and viscosity.
6. Install new engine oil filter.
7. Run the engine until it runs out of gas and/or use a fuel stabilizer. Gasoline forms harmful gum and varnish deposits in the carburetor and fuel system as it becomes old.

CAUTION ***Do not store gasoline for more than 2 months. Failure to comply can cause damage to equipment or personal injury.***

8. Remove and replace fuel filter if needed.
9. Check oil fill and fuel tank caps to make sure they are securely in place.

Preparation for New Mowing Season

Prepare the stored mower for the new mowing season as follows:

1. Clean mower and remove any debris and dirt accumulation.
2. Check the engine oil levels.
3. Fill fuel tank with fresh gasoline.
4. Run the engine at half speed for 5 minutes and check the operation of the steering speed control levers. Then, stop engine and check for oil leaks, loose fittings, etc...
5. Ensure all safety devices are operational and review the general safety precautions listed in the front of this manual.
6. Check air pressure in tires. If needed, inflate to proper pressure: front tires-15 psi and rear tires-10 psi. (See maintenance chart on page 8.)

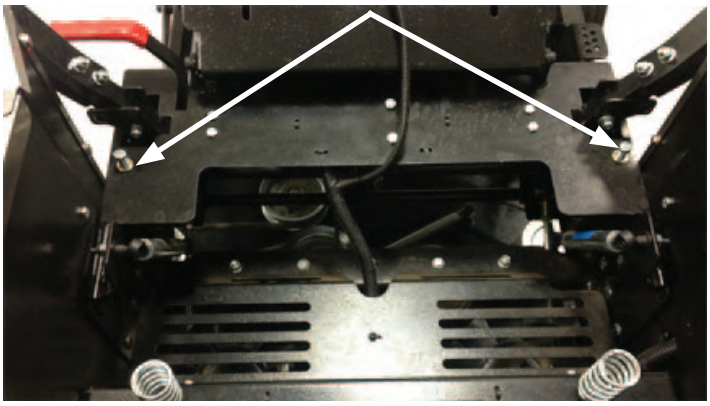
Tracking Adjustment

Steering and tracking may need minor adjustments if the unit steers to the right or left when both steering control levers are pushed all the way forward.

(Use caution before adjusting the steering and tracking on your mower. Several elements affect steering and tracking such as rough terrain and tire pressure.)

1. Determine the side of your drive system that has the fastest ground speed. i.e. (If your machine steers to the right your left side is faster than your right side.)
2. Adjusting the fastest side of your drive system to match the speed of your slower drive system component.(Manufacturer Recommendation)
3. Adjust the tracking adjustment bolts clockwise to slow the machine down and counter clockwise to speed the machine up.

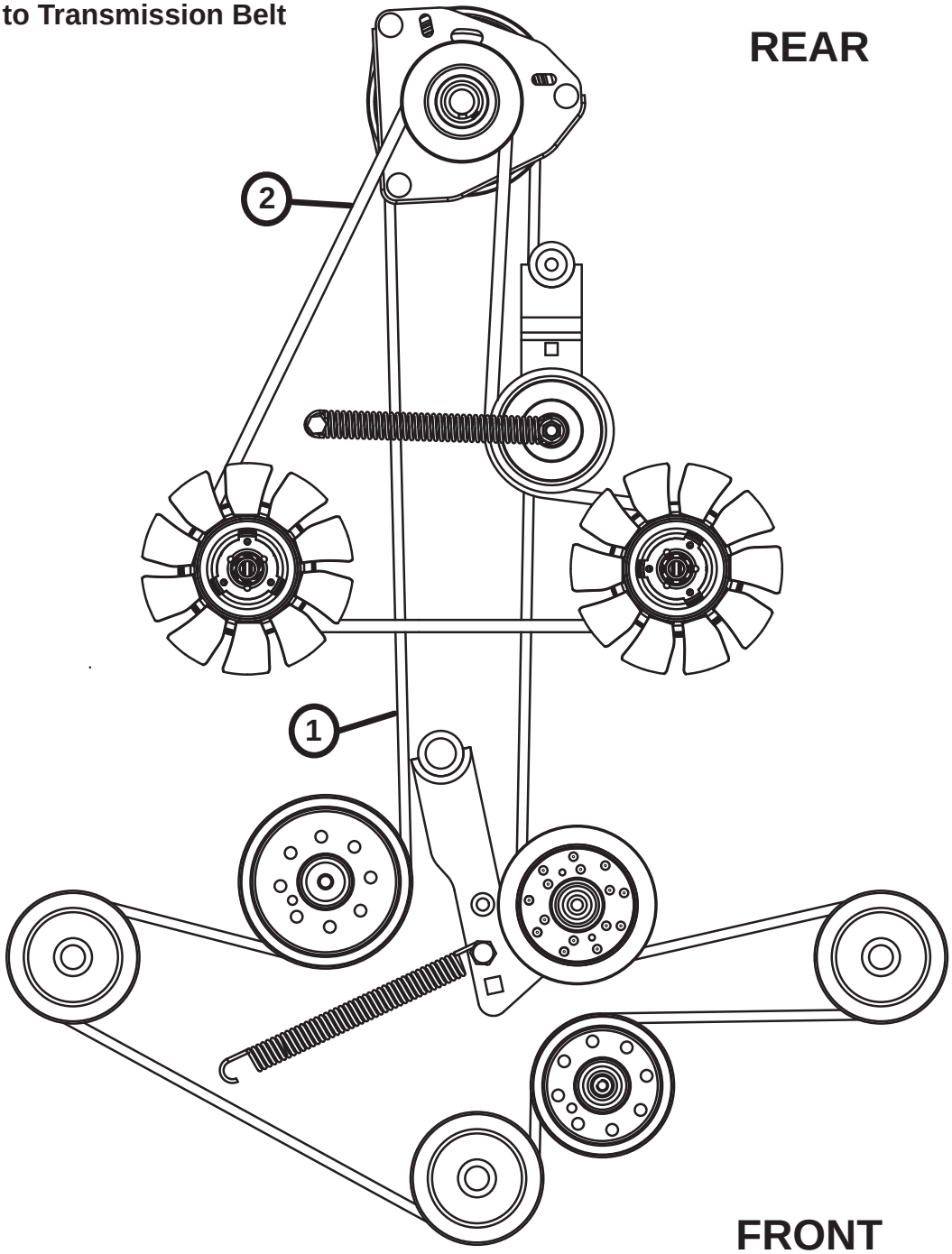
Tracking Adjustment Bolts



Belt Routing

1.) Engine to Deck Belt

2.) Engine to Transmission Belt



Notes

DIXIE CHOPPER®

The World's Fastest Lawn Mower®

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